

Docket No.: NEB-154

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Evans EXAMINER: W. Moore  
APPLICATION NO.: 09/249,543 GROUP: 1652  
FILED: February 12, 1999  
FOR: Intein-Mediated Protein Ligation Of Expressed Proteins

The Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

**RESPONSE C**

Sir:

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephone interview on August 13, 2002 and again on January 9, 2003. The Examiner confirmed in the telephone conference of January 9, 2003 that the present Office Action is **not** under final examination owing to the introduction of new rejections on page 4 of the Office Action.

In response to the Office Action dated September 19, 2002, the following amendments and remarks are presented.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

On page 1, lines 6-13, please amend as follows:

03/12/2003 GTRAMEL 00000004 140740 09249543  
01 FC:2253 465.00 CH

14/D  
MGT  
3/12/03